

REJECT New York / Virginia Style Abortion Expansion Bills in Rhode Island

Both H 5127 (Ajello) / S 152 (Goldin) and H 5125 (Williams) would

- Eliminate any constitutional restrictions on *late-term abortions*
- Eliminate any constitutional restrictions on methods of abortion, e.g., *partial birth abortion*
- Eliminate any penalties for engaging in *experimentation on human fetuses*
- Undermine the authority of the State and the Department of Health from enacting and adopting constitutional restrictions on the performance of abortions at facilities where abortions are performed
- Require the State to pay for all abortions sought by Medicaid-eligible pregnant women and women covered by the “payor of last Resort” program
- Neither bill preserves existing limitations as to who may perform abortions, thus opening the door to non-physicians performing surgical abortions

In addition, H 5127 / S 152 would

- Repeal existing constitutional protection from a viable unborn child from criminal assaults on the child’s mother
- Arguably abrogate the parental consent statute by not retaining the provision of state law (§ 23-4.6-1) that disqualifies a pregnant minor from consenting to an abortion

... and H 5125 would

- Substantially erode the State’s parental consent statute by allowing consent to be obtained from persons who have no constitutional right to give consent (grandparents and adult siblings)

Neither H 5127 / S 152 nor H 5125 could plausibly be regarded as merely “codifying” the principles of Roe v. Wade. Both H 5127 / S 152 and H 5125 are every bit as extreme as the bill passed in New York and filed in Virginia.

Note carefully that these bills strike down our existing post-viability ban, along with a wide range of other longstanding restrictions. And while some sort of watered-down post-viability ban ***might***, hypothetically, be permitted under their proposed statutory framework, no new ban is actually proposed in these bills. ***These bills thus permit abortion right up to the moment of birth.***

For information and to take action against these bills, visit:

rirtlaction.org